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BALLINDHAWHEE

An Irish Ballad

BY

JAMES B. DOLLARD

LET poet or punster walk Connacht or Munster
For health or for fun, sir, from Cork or Kilkee—
They'll never be meetin' a village that's beatin'
The pride o' Kilkenny—that's Ballindhawhee!

Its street is as tidy on Monday as Friday;
A lord or a lady of royal degree
Might roam till their wairy through Meath or Tipp'rary,
An' nothing so fair see as Ballindhawhee!

Here landlords are not, sir; they all went to pot, sir—
Dead, buried, or shot, sir, as plain as could be.
We'll have no bad manners from shoneens or planners
Or tinkers or tanners in Ballindhawhee!

We never heed doctors, an' peddlers and proctors
We welcome with sorrow an' pack off with glee;
We're death-down on cryin', and, sure, as for dyin',
It's the last thing we're tryin' in Ballindhawhee!

Our birds sing the sweetest, our colleens are neatest,
Our boys are the fleetest, between you and me!
An' to see our potatoes, as many you'd ate as
They'd pile on your plate in ould Ballindhawhee!

For home in ould Erin we'll ever be carin',
An' never be farin' across the black sea;
We'll stick to the Ould Sod till under the cowld sod
Our hearts rest in Ireland and Ballindhawhee!